

27 FEB 274 AD

or 27 Feb 272

Constantine the Great was
born

the dedication of the new temple to
the Sun which Aurelian built in northern
part of Rome, near the Mausoleum of Augustus.
The temple contained extravagant fittings, which
included jewel-encrusted robes & other materials
stripped from the Temple of Bel at Palmyra.
The cult of SOL INVICTUS (the Unconquered Sun)
was popular in the Roman Army and in
the eastern provinces, and Aurelian may
have built the temple not only through

a sense of personal devotion but also as a common focus for the desperate peoples of the empire

27 FEB 274 AD

CONSTANTINE THE GREAT
WAS BORN

274

1912 Dates J-BK

Aurelian defeated and captured
FETRICUS at CHALONS.

The Franks, Spain, & Britain
are reduced to obedience

274

Fall of the Gallic empire.

Aurélien intended to suppress the Gallic empire in the west.

His forces won a resounding victory at the battle of Châlons-sur-Marne in summer 274, and the last Gallic emperor, Tetricus surrendered.

His life was spared. He was taken to Rome to appear along with Zenobia in the magnificent triumph celebrated by Aurélien later in 274.

27 FEB ~~27AD~~ 274AD

CONSTANTINE THE GREAT
WAS BORN

Persia : Death of Sapor
Accession of VARANES I.

Aurelian prepared a
Persian expedition.

Tetricus & his son were together at Trier early in 274, when Aurelian marched against them. The forces of the Gallic empire took the field to oppose him, but in a hard fought battle at Châlons-sur-Moselle Aurelian's Army gained the upper hand. Tetricus & his son surrendered and the breakaway provinces of Britain-

Danck and the two Germanies were
reunited with the rest of the Roman
Empire.

Aurelian did not execute Tetricus
but gave him a senior administrative
position in southern Italy (governor of
LUCANIA) where he lived into old age.
His son too was pardoned, and confirmed
in his senatorial rank. Aurelian's policy
was clearly one of pacification rather than
repression; the provinces were welcomed.

Autumn of 274

the Roman empire was finally reunited
and Aurelian could with some justice assume
the 'Restitutor Orbis', 'Restorer of the World'!

But there was a crisis in the imperial currency.
The quality of the silver coinage had declined
sharply since 268, undermining
confidence in the money economy itself.
Aurelian endeavoured to rectify matters by
burying in the old debased currency and
issuing new reformed coins with higher

silver content, this may have been the move which triggered a serious revolt by the moneyers at Rome, led by FELICISSIMUS, controller of the mint. Accused perhaps of embezzling the silver and debasing the coins for their own profit, the rebels took refuge on the CAELIAN HILL. In the fighting which followed, as many as 7000 soldiers were killed.

274 (autumn)

Zenobia was the star exhibit
at Aurelian's triumph at Rome,
She lived out her days in honorable
confinement in a villa at TIVOLI